

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Monday, December 21, 2020. We have in attendance with us the following city officials: Mayor, Kathy Catazaro-Perry, Safety Service Director, Barb Sylvester, Auditor's Office Representative, Stefanie Myers, Law Director, Justin Richard, Chief Counsel, Bill Bartos, Economic Development Director, Dave Maley, Income Tax/Budget Director, Lori Kotagides-Boron and Health Department Commissioner, Terri Argent. Under item #5 on the agenda is where the public can speak on any item that appears on tonight's agenda and then under item #17 is where the public can speak on any item that does NOT appear on tonight's agenda.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Roll call.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Jill Creamer, Mike Gregg, Ted Herncane, Ed Lewis, Linda Litman, Mark Lombardi, Megan Starrett and Jim Thieret.

Roll call of 8 present

2. INVOCATION

COUNCILWOMAN MEGAN STARRETT

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LED BY COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT

4. READING OF THE JOURNAL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk are the minutes of the previous meeting transcribed and open for public viewing?

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – No, they are not. I'm still working on them.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you.

5. REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

6. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Thieret.

COUNCILMAN THIERET – I just have a question, if I may, about when the next Park and Rec. Board meeting will be held and where; is it online?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Does anyone have an answer for that? Councilwoman Creamer, do you know?

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – We just had one last week for the month of December and I believe the Board was discussing when the next meeting would be for January. They haven't decided on the day of the week just yet.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Anyone else?

COUNCILMAN THIERET – Thank you.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 136 – 2020

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 1151.02 of the Massillon Code of 1985 rezoning certain tracts of land from R-1 One Family Residential to B-1 Local Business, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Starrett.

COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT – First reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 136 – 2020 has received first reading. Ord. No. 137 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 137 – 2020

BY: RULES, COURTS AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1 – 2018 by enacting a new Section (2) D OCCUPATION LIST OF CLASS TITLES – 510-511 PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND 920 GOLF COURSE DEPARTMENT, PART-TIME/TEMPORARY/SEASONAL WAGE CLASSES AND RATES, in the City of Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Gregg.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Thank you, Madam President. As we discussed in our Work Session, this piece of legislation is designed to allow the Park and Recreation Dept. to bring their minimum wage up to the same as the State of Ohio and going forward to be able to do that without, I believe, further legislation. Are there any questions or comments? Hearing none, I move that we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 137 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 137 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 138 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 138 – 2020

BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE to accept the replat and dedication of road right of way on Marion Ave. S.E., Massillon, Ohio.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Thieret.

COUNCILMAN THIERET – This is a replat request. There's no emergency language attached to it, so, first reading tonight.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 138 – 2020 has received first reading. Ord. No. 139 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 139 – 2020

BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE to accept the replat and dedication of road right of way on Marion Ave. S.E., Massillon, Ohio.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Thieret.

COUNCILMAN THIERET – This is the same thing. It's just a replat down on Marion where they're doing some development. There's no emergency language, so if there's no further discussion, I'll just put this at first reading also.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 139 – 2020 has received first reading. Ord. No. 140 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 140 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Auditor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, and/or the appropriate City Official(s), to accept and enter into agreement with Stark County for a Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Sub-Grant on behalf of the City of Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This particular request is the CARES Act as stated. It is for \$89,713.41. It is to be used to help with the reimbursements for our first responders. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 140 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 140 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 141 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 141 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1217 Local Coronavirus Relief Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is the appropriation of the \$89,713.41. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 141 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 141 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 142 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 142 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of the Park and Recreation Department of the City of Massillon Ohio, and/or the appropriate City Official(s) to accept and enter into an agreement for a Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act Grant on behalf of the City of Massillon, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is similar to what we just did, except for this one, it's \$25,000.00. It is for the Park and Recreation Dept., specifically for adult day services or senior centers and obviously, we have the Senior Center. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 142 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 142 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 143 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 143 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1234 Park and Recreation Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is the appropriation of the \$25,000.00 with the Senior Center. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 143 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 143 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 144 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 144 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE reducing the appropriations in the 1209 Police Pension Fund, the 1210 Fire Pension Fund, the 1409 Municipal Road Fund, the 3105 State Patrol Transfer Fund and the 3110 Massillon Museum Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. All stated funds in the title would have a reduction according to this ordinance and this is just for the zeroing out of the accounts for accounting purposes for the end of the year. Are there any questions or discussion? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 144 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 144 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 145 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 145 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE reducing the appropriations in the 1421 Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is just like the last one that we did, except for its specifically for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 145 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 145 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 146 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 146 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1235 Community Health Services Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is an appropriation of \$17,000.00 in additional grant dollars that the Health Dept. received related to the Coronavirus. Any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 146 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 146 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 147 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 147 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Massillon City Health Department to enter into an Addendum to an existing agreement, with the Stark County Combined General Health District and to accept additional grant funding for COVID-19 activities; contact tracing, equipment for remote work and vaccine planning needs, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is adding onto the previous agreement where \$81,459.00 that the Health Dept. can qualify for. Much of this is related to the vaccine planning that is currently undergoing throughout our county and state. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 147 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 147 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 148 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 148 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Massillon Recreation Center to extend the offer to all City employees who are eligible for healthcare benefits another two (2) year complimentary membership to the Massillon Recreation Center effective January 1, 2021, and to allow City employees to purchase a married couple or family membership and deduct the cost of an individual membership from that cost, with the difference being an out-of-pocket expense for the City employee, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is a continuation of our current practice that we hold. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 148 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 148 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 149 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 149 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety of Massillon, Ohio, to exercise the option to renew the Agreement with Kimble Recycling and Disposal, Inc. for the collection of residential and commercial refuse and recycling for the 2021 calendar year, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is just, basically, us exercising the option with Kimble to continue to utilize the rates that we have with a cost-of-living increase, essentially. Are there any questions or discussion? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 149 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 149 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 150 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 150 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to enter into one-year prisoner transport agreements between the City of Massillon and political subdivisions using the City's prisoner transport service and authorizing the Auditor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to deposit said funds into the 1100 General Fund and the 1401 Capital Improvement Fund effective January 1, 2021, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. Can I call upon the Safety Service Director, please?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Yes. Ms. Sylvester.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes, Ms. Sylvester. As pointed out at the Work Session, have all of the agreements been corrected for the correct subdivision in their title?

BARB SYLVESTER – Yes sir, they have.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – If there's no further questions or discussion this evening, I plan to move this forward. Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 150 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 150 – 2020 has passed. Ord. No. 151 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 151 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending SECTION 181.01 "PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY TO LEVY TAX; RATE" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio, and authorizing the continuation of an existing two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) levy on income, to be effective January 1, 2022, for five (5) years, for the purpose of City Street Maintenance and Repair and the City Street Department, subject to the approval of the electors of the City of Massillon, Ohio, at an election to be conducted at the Primary Election on May 4, 2021.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. It would be my intention to give this first reading, but, is Mr. Maley available?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Mr. Maley, are you with us?

DAVE MALEY – Yes I am.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Go ahead.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Mr. Maley, what is the time frame we have that if we wanted to put this on the Primary, as far as getting it passed?

DAVE MALEY – I would suggest that we give it at least, if you want to give it three reads that we obviously move forward tonight and I think the deadline is February 3rd or 4th to get it in; I'm trying to find that out as we speak. But it's like the first week of February, we have to have everything over to the Board of Elections.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – It's probably February 3rd by 4:00 p.m.

DAVE MALEY – Yes, February 3rd by 4:00 p.m. for the May 4th Primary.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Alright, with that said, first reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 151 – 2020 has received first reading. Res. No. 19 – 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 19 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION directing the Stark County Board of Elections to conduct an election at the Primary Election on May 4, 2021, for the purpose of providing the electors of the City of Massillon, Ohio, with the opportunity to approve or disapprove an ordinance providing for the continuation of an existing two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) levy on income, to be effective January 1, 2022, for five (5) years, for the purpose of City Street Maintenance and Repair and the City Street Department, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – First reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Res. No. 19 – 2020 has received first reading.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

Massillon Cable TV - \$ 175.00 Installation of Fiber Service for Wi-Fi

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we pay the bills.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call.

8 yes to pay the bills

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. The Clerk will pay the bills and charge them to their proper accounts.

11. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Treasurer's Report	-	November 2020
Auditor's Report	-	November 2020

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we accept the Auditor's Report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call.

8 yes to accept the Auditor's Report

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. The Auditor's Report has been accepted.

12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Our next Work Session and our last Work Session for 2020, will be next Monday, December 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

13. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. I'd like to make a request from the Administration that at that Committee Meeting on the 28th that Council is able to receive an update on the property formerly known as Affinity Hospital.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Okay. Councilman Herncane.

COUNCILMAN HERNCANE – Thank you, Madam President. I'd like to make a request of the Administration, as well for the next meeting to give us a report on where we are at with the quotes for the vehicle activated or the vehicle activated passive street sign, flashing lights and bumps that we passed six months ago.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Okay.

COUNCILMAN HERNCANE – Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

14. CALL OF THE CALENDAR

ORDINANCE NO. 118 – 2020 **BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**
Tabled December 7, 2020 until December 21, 2020

AN ORDINANCE to adopt appropriations for the operating and capital expenditures of the City of Massillon, Ohio, for the fiscal year 2021, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is the budget that we've been discussing for a couple of months now. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we bring Ord. No. 118 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 118 – 2020 has passed.

15. THIRD READING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 127 – 2020

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 1151.02 of the Massillon Code of 1985 rezoning a certain tract of land from RM-1 Multi-Family Residential to R-2 One Family Residential, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Starrett.

COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT – Thank you, Madam President. Second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 127 – 2020 has received second reading. Ord. No. 131 – 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 131 – 2020

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 3109 TIF Service Payment Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is making certain appropriations as stated. We discussed this particular ordinance at the Work Session about the amounts that need to go into the accounts. Are there any further questions or discussion this evening? Hearing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 131 – 2020 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 131 – 2020 has passed.

17. REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

L.J. DELUCA – 2954 Veterans Blvd. S.E., Massillon, Ohio. I want to say that with what you've got going on tonight, you guys are doing a great job there. I want to talk about some of the business owners who are friends of mine. I've always said ban together, Ohio strong,

Massillon strong. These business owners got together recently; I told them to get together and oppose restrictions on businesses to slow the spread of Coronavirus and thirty people got together recently at Mulligan's Pub here in Jackson Twp. and they wanted to see what they could do and I appreciate that. They banded together to stand up to the restrictions. They met for about two hours and Doug Wright was one of thirty. So, some of these business owners are independent contractors and don't have W2 employees. So, they are not eligible for the paycheck protection program assistance. I don't know if some of our listeners know that. What's killing our business owners here in Massillon and Cleveland and Akron?

Unconstitutional mandates, the loss of the civil liberties and really the media coverage of the pandemic. They're really blowing it out of proportion, I think, in my opinion. Joanna Schwam's, one of the owner of this Mulligan's Pub in Jackson Twp., she had a big PowerPoint presentation there and she had the statistics of why the Coronavirus is over blown. I looked at it and said "okay". You can be asymptomatic and spread it and not know it and get it and maybe, not in a restaurant. Not in Massillon, not in Akron, not in Cleveland, okay. And everybody, right now, has to be on a 10:00 p.m., they got to be out of dodge. Dodge is Massillon, Ohio. And what do they do? They go to house parties, 911. That spreads the Coronavirus. Recently, I heard Governor DeWine on the news saying that you don't go out, it's not essential. But you're telling the restaurants, okay, you're killing restaurants, Gov. Because they're not going out, they're not going out to restaurants. So, some are staying home in fear. Do we want chain restaurants is what I'm asking here tonight? Are you masking up? I wash my hands. I disinfect and I follow all of the protocols. Governor DeWine, I know he's trying to protect Ohioans, I get it. But right now, he's pushing the gas pedal down on the restaurants and boy, is that hurting. One final thing here, the Stark County Health Dept. recently had the statement, I don't know if any of you seen it, it's good you be able to do these and ban together, but these death rates, as of Friday, December 18, 2020; the Ohio Dept. of Health reported more than 605,000 cases; 34,000 hospitalizations and nearly 8,000 deaths. That's 8,000 too many. And my final question to you and I know I want you to answer there, but are all these hospitalizations and deaths all coming from our restaurants? Here in Massillon, here in Cleveland, here in Akron, here in Cincy, here in Columbus. Really? Where's the proof in the Christmas pudding? I hope we all have a great holiday and I hope these vaccines really get out and we can get back to the Massillon Chambers again. Thank you, Madam President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Mr. Deluca. Anyone else? Hearing none, before we adjourn, I would just like to say and I don't know if I'm speaking for anyone else, but I am really looking forward to getting 2020 behind us and I'm hoping that all of you have a wonderful Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and here's hoping for a really, really good and prosperous 2021.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT – I make a motion that we adjourn.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Litman. Meeting adjourned and Merry Christmas.

DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

CLAUDETTE ISTNICK, PRESIDENT